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LEEK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report

for the Year ending 31st December, 1946

By

H. KELSO WATSON
Medical Officer of Health

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LEEK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

For the

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1946

By

H. KELSO WATSON,

Medical Officer of Health

SANITARY AND HOSPITALS COMMITTEE

Chairman : Councillor J. W. Evans.

Vice-Chairman : Councillor G. Shufflebotham.

Members : Councillors G. Baker, W. E. Battersby, J. Bennison, H. C. Brown, A. Buckley, T. W. Buxton, W. Cooper, R. W. Critchlow, R. G. Grindon, W. Hambleton, F. Hargreaves, J. Harrison, G. Jervis, J. A. Maynard, J. Needham, E. J. Oakes, J. Robinson, Mrs. G. Sigley, J. G. Stubbs, F. Turner, and J. J. Tyler.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health.

H. KELSO WATSON, M.B., Ch.B.

Sanitary Inspector.

F. HEMINGWAY, M.S.I.A., Certified Food Inspector.

Additional Sanitary Inspector.

D. K. PEDLEY, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

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REPORT

The Leek Rural District extends over 72,623 acres. The main occupations are farming and mining. The population in 1946 was 15,560.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area	72,623 acres.
Number of inhabited houses	4,641
Rateable Value	£58,215
Sum represented by penny rate	£228
Population	15,560
Number of persons per acre	.22

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	137	132	269
Illegitimate	10	4	14
	147	136	283

Birth rate per 1,000 of the Population—18.01

Stillbirths	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	3	2	5
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	3	2	5

Rate per 1,000 total births—17.6

Deaths (all ages)	M	F	TOTAL
	106	87	193

Death rate per 1,000 of the population—12.33

Deaths of Infants (Under 1 year)	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	6	4	10
Illegitimate	2	-	2
	8	4	12

Death rate per 1,000 live births—42.4

TUBERCULOSIS

The table below shows the number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register, and figures for the two preceding years are given for comparison purposes.

	Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Total (Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary)		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
1946	75	65	140	29	33	62	104	98	202
1945	74	63	137	28	33	61	102	96	198
1944	72	65	137	29	31	60	101	96	197

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Percentage of children Immunised at 31st. December, 1946

Age group 0 - 4 years	59.7%
" " 5 - 14 "	67·5%
Total under 15 years	64.7%

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The incidence of Infectious diseases in the Schools of the district during 1946 is as follows:—

JANUARY Influenza, Scarlet Fever, Chicken Pox, Impetigo.
FEBRUARY Influenza, Scabies, Chicken Pox.
MARCH Scarlet Fever, Chicken Pox, Mumps.
APRIL Chicken Pox.
MAY Scarlet Fever, Chicken Pox.
JUNE Scarlet Fever, Measles, Diphtheria.
JULY Whooping Cough, Impetigo.
AUGUST
SEPTEMBER Chicken Pox.
OCTOBER Chicken Pox, Whooping Cough.
NOVEMBER Mumps, Chicken Pox, Whooping Cough.
DECEMBER Chicken Pox, Scarlet Fever, Influenza, Diphtheria.

Incidence of Infectious Diseases

Parishes	Measles	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Scarlet Fever	Dysentery	Erysipelas	Paratyphoid Fever	Cerebro Spinal Fever
Alstonefield									
Bagnall									
Bradnop		4				1			
Butterton		1							
Endon and Stanley		5	1	1	1			1	
Fawfieldhead									
Grindon	5								1
Heathylee									
Heaton									
Hollinsclough					1				
Horton	1								
Ilam									
Leekfrith					4		1		
Longnor				1					
Longsdon	1								
Norton-in-the-Moors	2		1	1	4		1		
Onecote									
Quarnford	5								
Rushton				1	2				
Sheen									
Tittesworth									
Warslow and Elkstones					2				
Wetton									
Total	14	10	2	4	14	1	2	1	1

Table 1
Table of Infant Deaths

Cause of Death	Total under 1 Year	Under 1 Week	1—2 Weeks	2—3 Weeks	3—4 Weeks	1—3 Months	3—6 Months	6—9 Months	9—12 Months
Convulsions	2					1			1
Pneumonia	2		1					1	
Diarrhoea									
Atelectasis									
Congenital Malformations	2	2							
Premature Birth	3	3							
Other Causes	3					3			
Totals ...	12	5	1			4		1	1

Table II
Leek Rural District

Cause of Death	All ages	Under 1	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Diphtheria	1			1					
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	3					2	1		
Non - Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2					1			1
Influenza									
Cancer of Oesophagus or Uterus	3						1		2
Cancer of Stomach or Duodenum	6						1	2	3
Cancer of Breast	6							4	2
Cancer of all other Sites ...	21					1	4	7	9
Diabetes	3							1	2
Intra - cranial Vascular lesions	19							5	14
Heart Disease	54						2	8	44
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	1	1							
Bronchitis	9							3	6
Pneumonia	10	2		1				6	1
Other Respiratory Diseases	3			1				2	
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)									
Appendicitis									
Other Digestive Diseases	2							1	1
Nephritis	3					1	1		1
Puerperal Sepsis	0								
Other Maternal Causes ...	0								
Premature Birth	3	3							
Congenital Malformation and Disease	3	3							
Suicide	3							2	1
Road Traffic Accidents ...	2			1					1
Other Violent Causes... ...	7	2		1	1			1	2
All Other Causes	29	1	1	1	1		3	5	17
Totals	193	12	1	6	2	5	13	47	107

Table III

Causes of Death in Leek Rural District, 1946

Causes of Death	Males	Females
All Causes	106	87
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers		
Cerebro-Spinal Fever		
Scarlet Fever		
Whooping Cough		
Diphtheria	1	
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	2	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	
Syphilitic Diseases		
Influenza	2	2
Measles		
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis		
Acute Infencephalitis		
Cancer of buc. cav. and oesoph. uterus	2	1
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	2	3
Cancer of Breast		6
Cancer of all other sites	10	8
Diabetes		
Intra-cranal vascular lesions	8	9
Heart Disease	34	30
Other diseases of circulatory system ...		3
Bronchitis	6	4
Pneumonia	4	2
Other Respiratory diseases	2	1
Ulcer of the Stomach or Duodenum ...	1	
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)		
Appendicitis	1	
Other digestive diseases	4	
Nephritis	2	
Puerperal and post-abort. Sepsis		
Other maternal causes		
Premature Birth	1	1
Congenital malformation birth inj. infant dis.	5	2
Suicide	3	
Road traffic accident	2	
Other violent causes	2	4
All other causes	11	10

Table IV

Birth-rates, Civilian Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case rates for certain Infectious diseases in the Year 1946. Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales	126 C. Bs. and Great Towns including London	143 smaller Towns Resident Pop. 25000 - 50000 1931 Census	London Adm. County
	*Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population :–			
Live Births	19.1 ‡	22.2	21.3	21.5
Still Births	0.53 ‡	0.67	0.59	0.54
Deaths				
All Causes	11.5 ‡	12.7	11.7	12.7
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
Diphtheria	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Influenza	0.15	0.13	0.14	0.12
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
Measles	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01
	Rates per 1,000 Live Births :—			
Deaths under one year of Age	43 §	46	37	41
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	4.4	6.1	2.8	4.2

* A dash (-) signifies that there were no deaths.
§ Per 1,000 related births. ‡ Rates per 1,000 population.

	Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population :–			
Notifications:—				
Typhoid Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.06
Scarlet Fever	1.38	1.51	1.33	1.42
Whooping Cough	2.28	2.48	2.05	2.22
Diphtheria	0.28	0.32	0.31	0.24
Erysipelas	0.22	0.25	0.22	0.27
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	3.92	4.73	3.70	7.35
Pneumonia	0.89	1.02	0.74	0.75
	Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live & Still)			
(a) Notifications:				
Puerperal Fever	8.50	10.35	7.63	1.62
Puerperal Pyrexia				‡9.68

(b) Maternal Mortality in England and Wales:—

No. 140 Abortion with Sepsis	No. 141 Abortion without Sepsis	No. 147 Puerperal Infections	Nos. 142-6 148-150 Other
0.13	0.06	0.18	1.06

Abortion:—Mortality per million women aged 15-45 in England and Wales:—

No. 140 With Sepsis	No. 141 Without Sepsis
11	5

‡ Including Puerperal fever.

Sanitary inspection of the Area—
Summary of Visits

HOUSING :

(A)	Inspection of Houses for defects	60	
(B)	Houses inspected under Hobhouse Survey	223	
(C)	Visits re Building Licences	347	
(D)	Requisitioning	4	
(E)	Overcrowding	1	
(F)	"Squatters"	9	
			644

Inspection of Premises for Nuisances	293
Visits re Food supply	85
Drainage Inspections	160
New Drains Laid	54
Cowsheds and Dairies	115
Infectious Diseases	19
Visits re Water Supplies	84
Samples of Water taken	20
Refuse and Nightsoil Collection	92
Knackers' Yards	15
Petroleum Stores	32
Rat and Mice Infestations	85
Fumigations	18
Samples of Sewage Effluents taken	2
Public Conveniences	4
Conversions	15
Miscellaneous Visits	27
	1764

NOTICES SERVED

	Informal Notices	102	
	Statutory Notices	5	
(a)	Number of Nuisances Remedied		32
(b)	Number of defective dwellings rendered fit following service of Statutory and informal notices		41

Water Supply, Sewerage and Scavenging

Parish	Number of Houses	(a) Number of Houses with Piped water Supply	(b) Number of Houses on Sewerage System	(c) Number of Houses from which Nightsoil is removed
Alstonefield	121			
Bagnall	290	200‡		57
Bradnop	88			
Butterton	73			
Endon and Stanley	520	450‡	260	93
Fawfieldhead	113			
Grindon	75			
Heathylee	81			
Heaton	101			
Hollinsclough	58			
Horton	282			
Ilam	29			
Leekfrith	136			
Longnor	132	22*		
Longsdon	204	100‡		
Norton-in-the-Moors	1075	1450‡	987	647
Onecote	77			
Quarnford	83			
Rushton	184			
Sheen	89			
Tittesworth	40			
Warslow and Elkstones	117			
Wetton	73			
Total	4641	2222	1247	797

(a) ‡ Supplied by the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board
* Supply gravitating from spring at Hollinsclough.

(b) Three sewage disposal Works—one in the Parish of Endon and Stanley, and two in the Parish of Norton-in-the-Moors.

(c) Scheme undertaken by private contractors (Since performed by direct labour (September, 1947)).

Reports of Samples of Water

	NUMBER OF SAMPLES TAKEN		RESULTS	
	For Bacteriological Examination	For Chemical Analysis	Fit	Unfit
Wells	3	3	1	2
Private Piped Supplies ...	3	3	—	3
Springs	2	2	1	1
*Boreholes	2	2	1	1
Total ...	10	10	3	7

* Newly sunk Borehole. Second sample proved to be satisfactory

Hobhouse Report—Housing Survey

The Survey was commenced in November 1946, and during the months of November and December 223 houses were inspected and classified into the following categories :

CATEGORY	1.	(Satisfactory in all respects)	51
	2.	(Minor defects)	21
	3.	(Repairs or structural alterations)	141
	4.	(Housing (Rural Workers) Acts)	—
	5.	(Unfit)	10
			223

Of the 223 houses inspected, overcrowding was found to exist in 7 cases.

Control of Civil Building—Building Licences

During the year under review 20 licences for new dwellings were granted, totalling £22,333, and 41 new houses were completed in this period.

Building licences for repairs, alterations, adaptations etc. to property were issued as follows:—

Housing	287	£13,095
Other than housing	99	5,163
TOTAL	386	£18,258

Inspection of Dwelling Houses During the Year

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts)	283
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	296
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-heading (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925	223
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	223
(3)		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	58
(4)		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	151

REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or its Officers	41

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR

(a)	Proceedings under the Housing Act 1936	Nil
(b)	Proceedings under the Public Health Act 1936	Nil
(c)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which an undertaking not to use a dwelling for human habitation was accepted. (Housing Act 1936).	Nil

Milk Supply

(a) Number of Producers of Milk	1377
(b) Number of Producers (included in (a)) of Accredited Milk	349
(c) Number of Producers (included in (a)) of Tuberculin Tested Milk	12
Supplementary Licenses granted to sell Pasteurised Milk	1
Dealers' Licences granted to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk	—

Meat and Other Foods

Number of Slaughterhouses Licenced	—
Number of Knacker's Yards licenced	1
Number of men holding licence to slaughter	19

Weight of Foods Condemned

(a) Tinned Foods	30 lbs.
(b) Miscellaneous Foods	119 lbs.
	149 lbs.

H. KELSO WATSON

Medical Officer of Health

F. HEMINGWAY

Sanitary Inspector